

Section 03. Challenges in Environmental Protection

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Environmental Problems in Dniprovsk Region

As for today, Dnipro is one of the most polluted cities in Ukraine. There is no proper environmental monitoring system in the city. Out of 39 types of air polluting substances are known, only 6-7 polluting indexes are being controlled within the small territory of the city now. Monitoring of soil pollution and land surface waters within the limits of the city, radiation and acoustic pollution monitoring, are not available.

The main sources of pollution are improper management of agriculture, nonferrous metallurgy. Atmosphere is polluted by dangerous waste products, like sulfur and nitrogen compounds. Also, big number of facilities in our city dump their waste in the Dnieper, and the amount of that dumping is really big. It includes 16% of all pollution in our country.

The situation with storage of pesticides, and chemicals for agricultural purposes is getting worse in Dniprovsk region. At the moment, there is more than 900 tons of chemicals and hazardous waste, that are contained on 178 storages, 90 of which are in terrible condition. Some waste is stored outdoors, without proper protection. That is dangerous for environment, especially in the periods of flood or heavy rain. Thus, for example, in some storages in Mezhevsk region, there is no roof, and containers are in insufficient condition. There are cases, when chemicals have been washed out by rain and melting snow. After that they get into the soil and water objects. Situation is not better at Hrekovataya station, that is located near Kryvyi Rih. There, containers are damaged by corrosion, and liquid waste starts to leak, and goes into the soil. That is the biggest storage base on the territory of Dniprovsk region, where almost 292 tons of chemicals are contained.

To sum up, I want to say, that the situation with ecology in our region is getting out of control. To solve this problem we need to build more purification plants, recycle waste products and chemicals and recultivate soil.